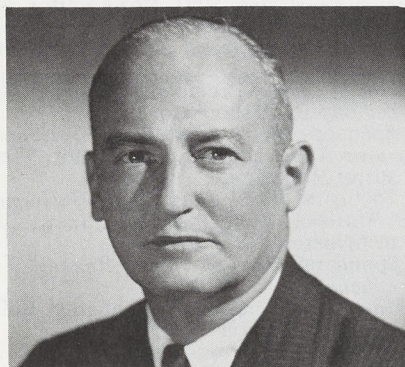


Overseas Press Club Bulletin

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OCTOBER 15, 1980

52 East 41 Street
New York, N.Y. 10017
(212) 679-9650



Ralph H. Major, Jr.

Ralph Major Dead

Ralph H. Major, Jr. died in Stamford Hospital on Sunday, September 28 after a short illness. He was 60 years old. At the time, he was manager of public relations services for Pitney Bowes Business Systems, nationwide.

A graduate of Yale University, Ralph served in the U.S. Army as a war correspondent for *Stars and Stripes* and the *Kansas City Star* during the Second World War. He was awarded the silver star, the bronze star, and decorations from six foreign countries including the Order of Malta. He served in North Africa, Italy and Austria and was mustered out as a Captain.

Back in civilian life, Ralph joined *Newsweek* as assistant editor. He later was a senior editor at *Coronet* and also editor of *Cue*.

Shifting gears into a public relations career, Ralph headed the public relations department at Batten, Barton, Durstine & Osborne Inc. for a number of years. He was later a vice-president of Hill and Knowlton, Arthur Schmidt & Associates and John Moynahan before joining Pitney Bowes.

A resident of New Canaan, Connecticut, since 1952, Ralph was an elected Democratic justice of the peace in that Republican enclave. He was also a director of the New Canaan Community YMCA and the New Canaan United Fund, and publicity chairman for the Fairfield County Sports Car Club among other civic organizations in which he was active.

(Continued on page 2)

Iran/Iraq Conflict

Waiting Out the News At the UN

Nothing brings the working press together faster, or binds them more closely than the eternal staking out and waiting for an international crisis such as Iran/Iraq to be dealt with at the United Nations.

This was again demonstrated the weekend of September 26-28 when top United Nations correspondents, and many from newspapers and news agencies outside, were attracted by the global importance of the issue, especially the oil impact on the Western world.

They waited and waited by the hour for the 15 member Security Council (Bangladesh, Britain, China, France, German Democratic Republic, Jamaica, Mexico, Norway, Niger, Philippines, Portugal, Soviet Union, Tunisia, United States and Zambia, to hammer out in private formal consultations a resolution agreeable to all. It all began when Iraq invaded Iran in mid-September and a prolonged exchange of fighting continued, destroying oil refineries and the security, in particular, of the Western World.

First came a resolution unanimously agreed to in private consultations. It called on Iran and Iraq to refrain immediately from using further force. An overnight delay came Saturday night, September 27, in adopting it when the Islamic members of the Council insisted that Pakistan President Zia Ul-Haq be allowed to carry out his assignment to visit the two countries on a "good will mission."

Iraq, in a letter sent to U.N. Secretary General Kurt Waldheim, reaffirmed that it was not trying to upset peace and security in the world but to gain back its legitimate rights in Iran.

As media people speculated with each other on the outcome (and took advantage of the bar in the South Lounge outside the Council chamber) paragraphs and punctuation were added

Up-and-Coming

Wednesday, October 29, 1980 - 6:30 P.M.: OPC Semi-Annual Membership Meeting

Friday, Nov. 7, 1980 - Cocktails 12 Noon, Luncheon 12:30, Bogart Room: Guest Speaker, Mayor Ed Koch

Monday, Nov. 10, 1980 - 5:30 P.M., Bogart Room: Italian Wine Tasting

Monday, Nov. 17, 1980 - 5:30 P.M. Bogart Room: Daniel Yankelovich, of Public Opinion & polling Fame will address the OPC Leader's Forum. (More details next issue).

Reservations required for all events. Cancellations, 24 hours prior to function, otherwise member will be charged the announced fee.

Reservations 679-9650

to a revised resolution. This was finally adopted the evening of September 28. It urges Iran and Iraq to accept offers of mediation and conciliation through agencies or arrangements of their choice. It also calls on other states to exercise utmost restraint and refrain from any act that escalates the conflict.

As fascinating as the subject matter and the tough negotiations and formalities of international diplomacy, just as intriguing is the waiting game played by the media. They vie for scoops, leap at Ambassadors as they enter the chamber, stick mini tape recorders in their faces for quotes, rapidly take notes in shorthand, Arabic, French, Chinese and many other languages of the 154 member states of the United Nations.

But as competitive as these television and radio and press reporters may be, it is refreshing to see how they help each other out in between with a tip, a quote, a follow-up to a lead. Whatever the rivalries within the United Nations context, it is refreshing to witness such camaraderie in the crunch of a breaking headline story.

-Blythe Foote Finke

Election West Germany Style

In the final weeks of the campaign, the government of the Federal Republic of Germany invited five American political writers to visit five cities, Bonn, Frankfurt, Wuerzburg, Nuremberg and Berlin. The object was to permit us to meet some of the men of the Social Democratic Party (SPD), whose top man, Chancellor Helmut Schmidt, was unfortunately campaigning elsewhere in West Germany. Also on our schedule, were meetings with a few members of the Christian Democratic Union (CDU) and, if luck held, Franz Josef Strauss, President of the State of Bavaria and candidate for the chancellorship of the CDU and its coalition partner, the Christian Socialist Union (CSU). We didn't meet Mr. Strauss either, but we were able to fight our way into a monster rally in the Sportshalle, in Cologne, to hear him.

Here, my American colleagues — Robert Ware, general manager of the Public Broadcasting station in Atlanta, Ga.; John Chamberlain, syndicated columnist; Gene Mustain, of the *Chicago Sun-Times*, and Donald Morris, of the *Houston Post*, were joined by the first man to arrive from Britain, in the vanguard of a similar group. This was Fred Emery, the well-known columnist for the *London Times*. The rally was the high point of our trip because Mr. Strauss, a highly intelligent fiscal expert, is a fiery speaker. The hall was packed with enthusiastic partisans and some noisy demonstrators, some armed with rotten tomatoes and other packages, who were moved out by the efficient police.

There is no question that Germany recognizes the dangers inherent in her geographical location in today's Europe. The biggest difference between Mr. Schmidt and Mr. Strauss in their competition for the Chancellorship on October 5 is that Schmidt believes in détente and keeping the Russians in a friendly mood. Mr. Strauss believes firmly that you can't trust the Russians, and that a visit to Moscow shows weakness. Nobody in Germany, whether he's old enough to have experienced the horrors of World War II, or has learned about them from their elders, wants war. The campaigners stressed "peace and freedom" and "security" in their campaigns. And there is always the Wall to remind them, with new mines running within five or six feet of the restored Reichstag building. We lunched there one day and then stood on the balcony looking across the Wall to the empty, lifeless

From the Riviera

NICE — Back on my Cote d'Azur beat. Fortunately, after the usual July-August invasion from the north, the weather was better than ever, as if the elements were in sympathy with the local people.

First, to cover the Braque retrospective at the world-famed Maeght Foundation in the hills around St. Paul de Vence. The first night found me at the Negresco, cordially welcomed by Monsieur Michel Palmer, surely the world's most versatile and charming manager, who hosts royalty on a daily basis. Setting me off on a "gastronomique route" to visit a club of famous restaurants known as "Les Etapes Gourmandes de la Cote d'Azur," Monsieur Palmer provides me with invaluable material for a future guide, not to mention a mouth-watering palate. A hot tip for you gourmets of OPC.

Returning to Nice pleasantly exhausted and a good ten pounds heavier, I ran into Jean Lorenzi, manager of the Voile d'Or. He runs this noted hotel, which is nestled in a hillside at St. Jean Cap Ferrat not far from the late Somerset Maugham's Villa Mauresque. Lorenzi, one of the top raconteurs, told me about the time Rex Harrison called him from his private plane to order a soufflé to be delivered in exactly twenty-two minutes. And how his night porter left the U.S. Marines over thirty years ago to marry a French girl — he still works there. The Voile d'Or is a high point in this land of good living and a recommended stop for OPCers.

— Theodore Macauley

house of the late, unlamented Hermann Goering. Yet only a few days earlier an East German, who had seen the plans when the mines were laid, stepped warily around them with a couple of other freedom seekers who had managed the impossible — they had negotiated the electrically wired fences, the ditches, the armed guards in the towers, the vicious dogs, the Wall itself — and the mines. They are now breathing the air of freedom in West Berlin.

— Irene Corbally Kuhn
Founder member, OPC

MAJOR

(Continued from page 1)

Following a funeral service at St. Marks Church in New Canaan, a group of club members gathered at Fat Tuesday's to tell and retell their favorite Ralph Major stories.

Ralph would have disapproved. But it made his passing easier for us.

— Charles Schreiber

New Applications

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REINSTATED

Active Resident

- Arthur Rothstein**, Parade Magazine

A statement from Henry Gellermann, President, Overseas Press Club on the death of Ralph Major:

"I have known Ralph close to four decades ... back to the 39th Street Club House.

"Over the years, he has served on many Club committees and on the Board of Governors giving generously of his time and talent. His gracious wit and boundless charm were hallmarks of his service to the OPC.

"We all lost a great friend."

Journalists in Guatemala "Detained"

Two More "Disappear"

Oscar Leonel Cordova and Manuel Rene Polanco Salguero are two of the latest Guatemalan journalists to have been detained by the government of President Fernando Romeo Lucas Garcia, according to Amnesty International. The government now claims no knowledge of their whereabouts, calling them "disappeared."

Cordova, a radio journalist at Nuevo Mundo radio station, was detained by the National Police on March 9, 1980 and has not been seen since, Amnesty International says. He is a colleague of the murdered union leader Jose Leon Castaneda Juarez, founder of the News Media Union.

Polanco, a reporter on the newspaper *Prensa Libre*, was one of 27 trade union representatives arrested in a police raid on the headquarters of the Central Nacional de Trabajadores (CNT), the National Labour Central, during a meeting on June 21. The police, however, have denied the raid took place and Polanco is considered "disappeared."

Amnesty International also reports that Oscar Enrique Ovalle, press officer of the Guatemalan Red Cross, has not been seen since being detained April 17, 1980.

According to Amnesty International, President Fernando Romeo Lucas Garcia's government has anonymously warned journalists to halt reports critical of them. Though the government denies responsibility, Amnesty International says that in 1980 alone 13 newspaper and radio journalists critical of the government have been murdered and 3 others have disappeared after being detained. Many other journalists and professors of journalism are said to have fled Guatemala due to the open government hostility to the press and fear for their own safety.

Other Journalists Reported Killed Recently

Mario Rivas Montes: director of the newspaper *El Imparcial*.

Lic. Manuel de Jesus Marroquin Castaneda: journalist and ex-vice-president of the Guatemalan Journalists' Association.

Jose Alejandro Gonzalez: director of Radio Tropicana.

Arturo Santisteban: announcer of Radio Tropicana

Julio Amilcar Cojon Tecun: announcer on Radio Tropicana

Julio Alfonso Solorzaho Belteton: announcer on Radio Tropicana

Hernan Guillermo Tobar Matta: proof-reader at the newspaper *Prensa Libre*

Julio Cesar Corado Espinoza: director of the monthly magazine *El Estudiante*

Recommended Action

Letters, asking the Guatemalan authorities to guarantee the safety of all members of the media, urging respect be given to the freedom of expression, expressing concern for the killing and "disappearance" of fellow members of the profession, and appealing for the release of the "disappeared" journalists, should be sent to:

Sr. Francisco Villagran Kramer
Vice Presidente de la Republica
Palacio Nacional
Guatemala, Guatemala

Sr. Donald Alvarez Ruiz
Ministro de Gobernacion
Ministerio de Gobernacion
Guatemala, Guatemala

Sr. Carlos Toledo Vielman
Secretario de Relaciones Publicas
de la Presidencia
Palacio Nacional
Guatemala, Guatemala

John Groth Showing In Contemporary Art Exhibit

The annual Henry Ward Ranger Exhibition of contemporary art opens at the National Academy of Design of September 24 and runs through November 9. Among the 23 artists who will participate (each will be represented by three works) is OPCer John Groth.

This is the 61st year that the National Academy has administered the Henry Ward Ranger Fund. Mr. Ranger, a member of the Academy and a well-known landscape artist, bequeathed his entire estate to the Academy. The income of the estate enables the Academy to purchase paintings by living American artists, paintings that are then given to art museums throughout the country.

The current exhibition at the Academy, *Between Traditions and Modernism: American Architectural Drawings from the National Academy of Design*, has been extended to November 30.

The National Academy is located at Fifth Avenue and 89th Street. Hours are 12:00-5:00, Tuesday through Sunday. Admission is \$1.00.

With a copy of appeals to: Sr. Fernando Molina Nannini, President, Asociacion de Periodistas de Guatemala, 14 Calle 3-29, Zona 1, Guatemala, Guatemala.

Alcidiades Gonzalez Delvalle, the Paraguayan investigative reporter for the newspaper, *ABC Color*, whose arrest and detention were reported in the September OPC Bulletin, has been released from prison on "conditional liberty." He still faces trial for his article critical of Paraguay's prison system.

Any appeals to the Paraguayan government in his behalf should call for a fair trial if there is one.

Norman A. Schorr

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OPC BULLETIN

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Irvin S. Taubkin, Editor; Helen Alpert, George E. Burns, Blythe Foote Finke, Thomas J. Kraner, Rosalind Moore, Grace Naismith, Charles J. Schreiber, Associates

Who, What, Where

By BLYTHE FOOTE FINKE

Ruth Biemiller is recovering from two separate bouts with eye surgery, and hopes to be back on the job at the *Bridgehampton Sun* soon doing puns, anagrams and crosswords. She is recuperating at home at 34 Lyncliff Road, Hampton Bays, New York 11946.

Herman Fink, also recuperating from a stay in the hospital, is now at home at 310 Lexington Avenue, New York City 10016. Best wishes to you both from all your friends at OPC!

Denny Griswold, editor of the *Public Relations News*, notes that Edward M. Block, vice-president of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company for public relations and employee information, has been named the 1980 "PR Professional-of-the-Year" by subscribers of *Public Relations News*.

Editor-in-chief of *1001 Decorating Ideas*, **Evan Frances** has been named to the additional post of vice-president of the parent company, Family Media, Inc. She is a leading editor and writer in the shelter-magazine field, and was previously a senior editor with *Ladies' Home Journal*. Ms. Frances also served as managing editor and acting editor-in-chief of *Family Weekly*.

Harry Rasky's award-winning portrait of the distinguished playwright, Arthur Miller, titled *Arthur Miller on Home Ground* will be telecast nationally on PBS October 8 at 8 P.M. Meantime in Canada, Rasky hosts a full week on CBC radio commemorating the 20th anniversary of the African Revolution which he covered as correspondent. It coincides with the Canadian publication of his memoirs *Nobody Swings on Sunday - The Many Lives and Films of Harry Rasky*.

Because of the great demand for her cookbook, Harper and Row is publishing a new edition of *The Low Blood Sugar Gourmet Cook Book* by **Sylvia Dannett**. It has already had two hardcover printings and is in a second paperback printing. An interview with Sylvia appears in the October issue of *Spotlight* magazine.

Louis Bley will be executive editor of a new weekly *Oil Buyers' Guide - International*, which will analyze international oil prices and markets. It will be published in conjunction with *Oil Buyers' Guide* which was recently purchased by The Thomson Organization, publishers of the London and Sunday Times and newspapers in Canada and Scotland. Bley had previously been Paris editor of the *New York Journal of Commerce* and London editor of *Petroleum Intelligence Weekly*. He will be located, starting Oct. 25, at 142 rue

OPC Jazz Club Season Opens

The Overseas Jazz Club got off to a swinging start for the season of "Twilight Jazz" on Friday, Sept. 26 with Max Kaminsky and his sextet featuring Clarence Hutchenrider on clarinet, Peter Compo on bass, John Halsey on piano, Bobby Pratt on trombone and Ronny Cole on drums.

Mr. Kaminsky is one of the all-time great jazz trumpet players and quickly showed that he still had his legendary skill. His long and distinguished career will be chronicled in his soon-to-be-published autobiography *My Life in Jazz* with V.E. Hughes, published by the De Campo Press.

The group gave exciting readings of many Dixieland standards, plus an imaginative "Sweet Georgia Brown" followed by an unusually slow-moving "St. James Infirmary Blues" with Bobby Pratt on trombone. The whole sextet responding to Mr. Hutchenriders pyrotechnics brought down the house with "Do I Need You?" All in all, this was classic jazz at its best played by "youthful" professionals.

As an icing on the cake, Miss Maxine Sullivan made an unscheduled appearance and, as always, gave the audience a delectable treat.

With such a kickoff, Twilight Jazz will have to go some to maintain its standard... Just wait until December!

— Jerry Bissell

Montmartre, Paris, France 75002.

On September 20, **Art and Louise Foley** addressed a *Design Firm Management* magazine seminar on marketing in Chicago. The Foley's article on "Profile of a Design Firm" will be in the magazine's October issue.

Mayor Koch Guest at Headliner Luncheon

Telling it like it is, as always, Mayor Ed Koch will be featured at a Headliners Luncheon on Friday, November 7 to give members and guests his evaluation of the elections — presidential, senatorial, congressional, et al. Luncheon Chairman David Anderson warns members to make their reservations early.

Enology Event

Date: Monday, November 10

Time: 5:30 P.M.

Where: OPC Dining Room

For: Members of OPC and the Newswomen's Club

AN ITALIAN WINE SAMPLER is the theme of a tasting event hosted by the Italian Trade Commission, scheduled for Monday, November 10.

Lucio Caputo, Italian Trade Commissioner, will discuss Italy's strides as wine producer to the world, and a wide selection of outstanding Italian wines will be tasted and discussed.

Eat and Drink With Us at The Club

Overseas Press Club of America, Inc.

52 East 41st Street

New York, N. Y. 10017

